General Assembly

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Fifty-eighth session
Agenda item 20

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/58/L.15 and Add.1)*]

58/13. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

The General Assembly,

Bearing in mind the indissoluble links between the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[1] and the foundations of any democratic society,

Recalling its resolutions 49/30 of 7 December 1994, 50/133 of 20 December 1995, 51/31 of 6 December 1996, 52/18 of 21 November 1997, 53/31 of 23 November 1998, 54/36 of 29 November 1999, 55/43 of 27 November 2000, 56/96 of 14 December 2001 and 56/269 of 27 March 2002,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration adopted by heads of State and Government on 8 September 2000,[2] in particular paragraphs 6 and 24 thereof,

Recalling further the declarations and plans of action of the five international conferences of new or restored democracies adopted in Manila in 1988, Managua in 1994, Bucharest in 1997, Cotonou in 2000 and Ulaanbaatar in 2003,

Recalling that the Fifth International Conference of New or Restored Democracies, which was held in Ulaanbaatar from 10 to 12 September 2003, focused on democracy, good governance and civil society,

Considering the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, including the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and other important principles, such as respect for the equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

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[1] Resolution 217 A (III).

[2] See resolution 55/2.

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of Mongoli
successful organization of the Fifth International Conference,

Bearing in mind that the activities of the United Nations carried out
of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate democracy are
in accordance with the Charter and only at the specific request of the Mem
concerned,

Taking note with satisfaction of the seminars, workshops and confe
democratization and good governance convened in 2002 and 2003, as we
held under the auspices of the Fifth International Conference,

Taking note of the views expressed by Member States on the item
at the fifty-seventh and fifty-eighth sessions,

Reaffirming that democracy, development and respect for all fund
are interdependent and mutually reinforcing,

Reaffirming also that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determ
own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full par
in all aspects of their lives,

Noting that a considerable number of societies have recently un
significant efforts to achieve their social, political and economic goals
democratization, good governance practices and the reform of their ec
pursuits that are deserving of the support and recognition of the inte
community,

Expressing its deep appreciation for the support provided by Memb
the United Nations system and other intergovernmental organization
Government of Mongolia for the holding of the Fifth International Confere

Taking note of the conclusions of the parliamentarians' forum
Ulaanbaatar on 11 September 2003 and the contribution of the
parliamentary declaration to the proceedings of the Fifth International Conf

Welcoming the holding of an international civil society forum w
framework of the Fifth International Conference,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[5] and its foc
Ulaanbaatar Declaration and Plan of Action: Democracy, Good Govern
Civil Society, adopted on 12 September 2003 at the Fifth International Con

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-Gene

2. *Welcomes* the Ulaanbaatar Declaration and Plan of Action: D
Good Governance and Civil Society, adopted at the Fifth International C
of New or Restored Democracies;[6]

3. *Encourages* Member States, the relevant organizations of t
Nations system, other intergovernmental organizations, national pa
including in collaboration with the Inter-Parliamentary Union a
parliamentary organizations, and non-governmental organizations to
actively to the follow-up to the Fifth International Conference and
additional efforts to identify possible steps in support of the efforts of Go

[5] A/58/392.

[6] A/58/387, annexes I and II.

to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies, including those set out in the Ulaanbaatar Declaration and Plan of Action;

4. *Recognizes* that the United Nations has an important role to play in providing timely, appropriate and coherent support to the efforts of Governments to achieve democratization and good governance within the context of their development efforts;

5. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to improve the capacity of the Organization to respond effectively to the requests of Member States by providing coherent and adequate support for their efforts to achieve the goals of good governance and democratization;

6. *Stresses* that the activities of the Organization must be undertaken in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

7. *Commends* the Secretary-General and through him the United Nations system for the activities undertaken at the request of Governments to support efforts to consolidate democracy and good governance, and requests him to continue those activities;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to examine options for strengthening the support provided by the United Nations system for the efforts of Member States to consolidate democracy and good governance, including the provision of support to the President of the Fifth International Conference in his efforts to make the Conference and its follow-up more effective and efficient;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixtieth session the item entitled "Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies".

62nd plenary meeting
17 November 2003